

Appl. No. 10/668,139
Amdt. dated November 10, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed July 13, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ferrule for a golf club, comprising:

a body having an upper portion and a lower portion that cooperatively define an axial bore extending the entire longitudinal length of the body for receiving a golf club shaft therethrough;

wherein the upper portion includes a plurality of protrusions positioned on an interior surface in the axial bore;

wherein the lower portion is further configured to receive an end of a hosel of a golf club head into the axial bore, the lower portion having an interior surface about the axial bore configured to cooperate with the end of the hosel to inhibit axial rotation of the ferrule about the hosel.

Claim 2 (original): A ferrule as defined in claim 1, wherein the lower portion includes an annular ridge positioned in the axial bore and configured to cooperate with an annular recess defined on an outer surface of the hosel to inhibit longitudinal movement of the ferrule.

Claim 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (original): A ferrule as defined in claim 1, further comprising at least one rib formed on the interior surface of the lower portion of the body and configured to be received within a corresponding groove defined on the outer surface of the hosel to inhibit axial rotation of the ferrule.

Claim 5 (original): A ferrule as defined in claim 1, further comprising at least one groove formed on an interior surface of the lower portion of the body and configured to receive a corresponding rib on the outer surface of the hosel to inhibit axial rotation of the ferrule.

Appl. No. 10/668,139
Amdt. dated November 10, 2005
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Claim 6 (currently amended): A ferrule as defined in claim 1, further comprising a chamfer ~~formed on an exterior surface~~ at a bottom end of the body.

Claim 7 (original): A ferrule as defined in claim 1, wherein the axial bore has a variable diameter profile including a first inner diameter at the upper portion that is smaller than a second inner diameter at the lower portion, the second inner diameter sized to receive the tip of the golf club shaft and the end of the hosel of the golf club head.

Claim 8 (original): A ferrule as defined in claim 1, wherein the body is formed of a material having a density less than about 2 g/cc and a modulus of elasticity no greater than about 3 GPa.

Claim 9 (original): A golf club, comprising:

 a golf club head having a hosel defining cavity having an opening at an upper end of the hosel;

 a shaft having an upper end adapted to be gripped by a golfer and a lower end extending into the cavity defined by the hosel; and

 a ferrule defining an axial bore and having the shaft extending therethrough, the ferrule having a bottom portion surrounding the upper end of the hosel, wherein the hosel and the ferrule have corresponding surfaces configured to engage each other in an interlocking fit that inhibits to inhibit axial rotation and longitudinal movement of the ferrule.

Claim 10 (original): A golf club as defined in claim 9, the ferrule including an annular ridge positioned within the axial bore to cooperate with an annular recess defined on an outer surface of the hosel to inhibit longitudinal movement of the ferrule.

Claim 11 (original): A golf club as defined in claim 9, the ferrule including a plurality of protrusions positioned on an interior surface in the axial bore in contact with the shaft, wherein the ferrule and the shaft define a cavity therebetween.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): A golf club as defined in claim 9, wherein the corresponding surfaces of the hosel and the ferrule include an outer surface of the hosel having at least one strut.

Appl. No. 10/668,139
Amdt. dated November 10, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed July 13, 2005

Claim 13 (withdrawn): A golf club as defined in claim 12, wherein the strut has a knife-like edge configured to cut into the interior surface of the ferrule to inhibit axial rotation thereof.

Claim 14 (original): A golf club as defined in claim 9, the corresponding surfaces of the ferrule and the hosel including a longitudinal rib on an interior surface of the ferrule and a corresponding groove on the outer surface of the hosel.

Claim 15 (original): A golf club as defined in claim 14, the corresponding surfaces of the ferrule and the hosel further including an annular ridge positioned within the axial bore of the ferrule and an annular recess defined on an outer surface of the hosel.

Claim 16 (original): A golf club as defined in claim 15, wherein the axial bore has a variable diameter profile including a first inner diameter at an upper portion that is smaller than a second inner diameter at the bottom portion, the second inner diameter sized to receive the shaft and the end of the hosel of the golf club head.

Claim 17 (original): A golf club as defined in claim 15, the ferrule having a chamfered or rounded, annular edge formed on a bottom end thereof.

Claims 18 – 24 (canceled).

Claim 25 (new): A ferrule for a golf club, comprising:

a body having an upper portion and a lower portion that cooperatively define an axial bore extending the entire longitudinal length of the body for receiving a golf club shaft therethrough;

wherein the upper portion includes a plurality of protrusions positioned on an interior surface in the axial bore;

wherein the lower portion is further configured to receive an end of a hosel of a golf club head into the axial bore.

Claim 26 (new): A ferrule as defined in claim 25, further comprising a chamfer surface at a bottom end of the body.

Appl. No. 10/668,139
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Claim 27 (new): A ferrule as defined in claim 25, wherein the axial bore has a variable diameter profile including a first inner diameter at the upper portion that is smaller than a second inner diameter at the lower portion, the second inner diameter sized to receive the tip of the golf club shaft and the end of the hosel of the golf club head.

Claim 28 (new): A ferrule as defined in claim 25, wherein the body is formed of a material having a density less than about 2 g/cc and a modulus of elasticity no greater than about 3 GPa.